

**MINUTES OF THE  
HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION MEETING  
JULY 19, 2005**

The regular session of the Auburn City Historical Design Review Commission was called to order on July 19, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. by Chrm. Smith in the Council Chambers, 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn, California.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Powers, Thompson, S. White,  
Briggs, W. White, Elder, Chrm. Smith

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Merz

**STAFF PRESENT** Will Wong, Community Development  
Director; Reg Murray, Senior Planner; Steve  
Geiger, Associate Planner; Gilda Lathuras,  
Office Assistant

**ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER**

**ITEM II: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of June 21, 2005 were approved as submitted.

**ITEM IV: PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**ITEM V: PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS – HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW**

- A. **Historic Design Review – 144 Reamer Street – File CE 04-5.** The applicant requests approval of a Civic Design for the Tuttle Mansion Office addition at 144 Reamer Street. The

Civic Design would allow a new 2,174 square foot one-story office building on a site with an existing 6,297 square foot building known as the Tuttle Mansion. *THIS ITEM WAS CONTINUED FROM THE JULY 5, 2005 MEETING. THIS ITEM IS CONTINUED TO THE AUGUST 2, 2005 MEETING.*

**B. Historic Design Review – 1234 High Street – File HDR 05-9.** The applicant requests Historic Design Review approval for a proposed freestanding sign for Cobblestone Homes located at 1234 High Street.

Steve Geiger gave the staff report. He described the colors, materials and location of the proposed sign, and noted that the sign will be four feet above ground with decorative finials at the top that are approximately 6 inches high. Staff believes the proposal is consistent with the Historic Preservation Architectural Design Guidelines and is recommending approval of the sign subject to the conditions listed in the staff report.

Comm. Elder questioned the height of the sign, she asked if the sign could be lowered or brought forward so the architectural design of the building behind it was more visible.

Chrm. Smith agreed; he felt the size of the sign could be modified.

Comm. W. White also agreed, noting that to him the sign resembled a billboard and obscured too much of the building at the proposed height.

Chrm. Smith suggested that if the sign were lowered to 6 inches above the grass, and if the supporting posts incorporated a material similar to the brickwork in the front of the building, it would visually tie the sign to the building.

The public hearing was opened.

John Borges with Motivational Systems, the company who does signage for Cobblestone Homes, added information. He further described the sign and the research that went into selecting materials comparable to other signs in the area. He added that Cobblestone Homes will only be in the Auburn area for approximately two years and when they left they would take the sign with them.

Comm. Powers felt that although the brick would enhance the sign, these signs are designed so that they can be easily replaced with a new sign. She stated that she likes the sign proposal as submitted.

Comm. W. White felt the sign looks temporary, and that the sign should meet architectural requirements even if it is temporary. Lowering the sign would be helpful and the balustrades on each side matching the existing building would look better. He would like to see something that looks more permanent.

Comm. Powers **MOVED** to:

- A. Find the project Categorically Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act per Section 15301, and
- B. Approve the request for the proposed freestanding sign at 1234 High Street with the added condition that it be lowered to 6 inches clearance above the ground.

Comm. Elder **SECONDED**.

The motion was approved 6-1 by voice vote. (W. White)

**ITEM VI:**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
FOLLOW-UP REPORTS**

- A. City Council Meetings.  
None.
- B. Future Historic Design Review Commission Meetings.  
No report.
- C. Reports.  
None.

**ITEM VII:**

**HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION REPORTS**

None.

**ITEM VIII: FUTURE HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMISSION  
AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**ITEM IX: ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Elaine Ferro, Administrative Assistant